

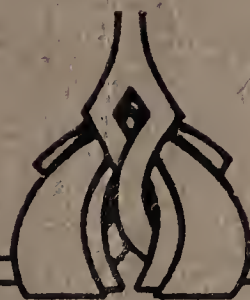
CHEADLE
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report

— OF THE —

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1923.



ALBERT PEPPER, PRINTER, CHEADLE.

TO CHEADLE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my Report for the year ending December 31st, 1923.

As defined in paragraph 3 of circular 269, of the 28th December, 1921, this is an " Ordinary Report " and so deals chiefly with matters of a non-repetitive nature.

Many improvements in the general sanitation of the district have been carried out during the year. Cheddleton and district will soon have an abundant supply of good and wholesome water ; the works for supplying Tean, etc., are well in hand ; and the scheme for supplying Alton, Bradley and Farley with an excellent water from springs at Ramsor has been completed and awaits the approval or otherwise of the Ministry of Health. The water supply to Cheadle town has also been improved in so far that, with the exception of a few hours weekly, when the plant requires attention, there is now a continuous supply. Public wells have been repaired and improved at Moneystone, Hollington and Cresswell ; a temporary water supply has been provided for the new Council houses at Tean by means of well and pump, and an additional length of water main has been provided for the supply of new property at Whiston.

Scavenging improvements have been carried out at Whiston, Foxt, Cheddleton and Wetley Rocks, so remedying the objectionable practise of leaving the removal of nightsoil and household refuse to the inhabitants of these villages themselves.

Owing to some difficulty with the original plans the sewage disposal schemes for Weston Coyney and Kingsley Holt have not yet been completed, progress is being made however, and at the latter a more comprehensive scheme is to be carried out and will include the houses at Froghall.

The shortage of houses in the district is being more acutely felt year by year. Many of the existing houses are quite unfit for human habitation and many are overcrowded. In a few instances the Council has tried to deal with the very worst houses by means of Closing Orders, but as this has led to further overcrowding the only means of solving this very serious problem would appear to be the building of new houses in sufficient numbers to supply the needs of the district.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The number of Factories and Workshops on the register is 118, consisting generally of the following trades, etc.:—Boot and Shoe makers, Bakers and Confectioners, Joiners, Smiths, Wheelwrights, Painters and Plumbers, Motor Repairers, etc. There are two out-workers, both boot and shoe repairers. One complaint only was received from H.M. Inspector of Factories regarding lack of proper privy accommodation. This has now been remedied. During the year 96 visits were made to workshops and 28 to Factories of various kinds.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The Isolation Hospital stands in its own grounds—2 acres—and is situated at Moss Lane, about one mile from the town of Cheadle.

Accommodation is provided for patients suffering from Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, and Enteric Fever, and since the Hospital was opened in May, 1904, a total of 1790 cases of infectious disease have been treated there.

During the year 1923, there were admitted to Hospital 88 cases of infectious disease, including 49 suffering from Scarlet Fever and 39 suffering from Diphtheria. Of the total number of cases of Scarlet Fever notified throughout the district, 90% were treated in hospital with a mortality rate of 2·04, while 82·9% of the cases of Diphtheria notified were treated in hospital, the mortality rate being 5·1. Greater use is now being made of the facilities offered for both isolation and treatment at the Hospital and this should tend to lessen the incidence of these diseases throughout the district. Since my last report the Council has provided a motor ambulance to take the place of the old horse drawn ambulance, and as this has caused a marked saving in the time taken to convey cases to hospital it has proved a great boon to both patients and staff.

Other improvements worthy of the consideration of the Council are the provision of gas to the hospital for lighting purposes, and the provision of suitable bathing accommodation in the observation pavilion. At present very little use is made of this pavilion owing to lack of this facility, but with it, it would be practicable to use the pavilion as a ward for cases of mixed infection or for private patients.

Age-incidence of Patients admitted to hospital during 1923.

Age		Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria	
Under 5 years of age	...	...	11	...	5
5 years and under 10 years	...	...	14	...	15
10 „ „ 15 „	...	...	14	...	11
15 „ and over	...	...	10	...	8

Number of cases—	Scarlet Fever		Diphtheria	
In hospital Jan. 1st, 1923	...	1	...	3
Admitted during year 1923	...	49	...	39
Discharged during year 1923	...	41	...	39
Died during year 1923	...	1	...	2
In hospital Dec. 31st, 1923	...	5	...	1

Table showing distribution of Infectious diseases throughout the district.

				Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Tuberculosis	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Puerperal Fever
Cheadle	...			10	2	19	30	1	1
Dilhorne	...	...		17	9	6	8	—	1
Ipstones	...	...		9	34	16	7	—	1
Alton	...	...		6	0	2	6	—	—
					Dysentery	Typhoid Fever	Erysipelas	Acute Poliomyelitis	Mixed Infection
Cheadle	...	...	...	—	—	—	1	—	—
Dilhorne	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ipstones	...	...	...	—	16	—	9	—	1
Alton	...	...	...	—	—	—	1	1	—

MATERNITY AND INFANT WELFARE WORK.

Cheadle Infant Welfare Centre was opened at the Wesleyan Schools, Charles Street, by a Committee of Ladies 8 years ago, and although it has now been taken over and is controlled by the County Council it owes a great deal of its popularity to the ladies who still attend and give voluntary help.

The Centre is open on Wednesday afternoons and is well attended by mothers with their children seeking advice on matters relating to health and home. In June last the County Council held a Welfare Exhibition at the Centre and gave most instructive demonstrations, "talks" and "lecturettes" to parents, teachers and school children, all of whom took a great interest in the various exhibits.

In centre of book a table is given indicating some of the work done by the Health Visitors of the district.

BIRTHS.

The total number of births registered during the year, after correction for inward and outward transfers, was 550, including 291 males and 259 females. Calculated on a midyearly population of 26,180 this gives a birth-rate of 20·2.

The number of illegitimate children born during the year was 19, including 5 males and 14 females, equal to 3·4% of the total births and giving an illegitimate birth-rate of 0·7.

TABLE X.

Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Analysis of Mortality during the Year 1923.

(Provisional figures. The rates for England and Wales have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1923, while those for the towns have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1922. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns).

	Birth-rate per 1000 of total population	Annual Death rate per 1000 Population.									Rate per 1,000 Births		Percentage of Total Deaths		
											Diarrhoea & enteritis under 2 yrs.	Total Deaths under one year	Causes of Death Registered by Medical Practitioners	Inquest Cases	Uncertified causes of death
		All causes	Enteric fever	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Violence					
England and Wales ...	19·7	11·6	0·01	0·00	0·14	0·03	0·10	0·07	0·22	0·44	7·7	69	92·0	6·9	1·1
105 County Boroughs and Gr't Towns, including London.	20·4	11·6	0·01	0·00	0·15	0·03	0·12	0·09	0·22	0·40	9·9	72	92·2	7·2	0·6
157 Smaller Towns (1921 Adjusted populations 20,000-50,000)	19·8	10·6	0·01	—	0·19	0·02	0·10	0·06	0·21	0·38	6·4	69	92·6	6·1	1·3
London ...	20·2	11·2	0·01	0·00	0·08	0·02	0·09	0·13	0·17	0·45	10·2	60	90·8	9·1	0·1
Cheadle Rural District ...	20·2	10·1	0·00	0·00	0·07	0·03	0·00	0·19	0·34	0·26	11·3	90·5	94·4	5·1	0·3

DEATHS.

After making allowance for inward and outward transfers the total number of deaths registered during the year was 292, including 146 males and 146 females. This gives a death-rate of 10·1 which is only very slightly greater than that (10·0) of the preceding year and is equal to exactly one half of the birth-rate.

The total number of deaths registered of children under 12 months of age was 48, including 32 males and 16 females, giving an infant mortality rate of 90·5 per 1000 births. This is a marked increase on the infant mortality rate of the preceding year which was one of the lowest recorded in the district, and is due chiefly to the large number of infants dying from congenital debility and malformation, premature birth, and affections of the respiratory organs.

MORTALITY FROM VARIOUS DISEASES.

Causes of Death (Civilians only)				Causes of Death			
				M.	F.		
ALL CAUSES				146	146		
1 Enteric Fever						23 Appendicitis & typhlitis ...	3
2 Small-pox						24 Cirrhosis of liver	
3 Measles	1	1				25 Acute & chronic nephritis	1 3
4 Scarlet Fever		1				26 Puerperal sepsis	2
5 Whooping Cough						27 Other accidents & diseases of pregnancy and parturition	2
6 Diphtheria	2	3				28 Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth	9 11
7 Influenza	5	4				29 Suicide	2
8 Encephalitis lethargica ...						30 Other deaths from violence	5 2
9 Meningococcal meningitis						31 Other defined diseases ...	32 24
10 Tuberculosis of respiratory system	6	8				32 Causes ill-defined or unknown	1
11 Other tuberculous diseases	1	5				Special causes (included above)	
12 Cancer, malignant disease	7	14				Poliomyelitis	1
13 Rheumatic Fever						Polioencephalitis	
14 Diabetes						Deaths of Infants under 1 year	
15 Cerebral hæmorrhage, &c. ...	5	8				Total	32 16
16 Heart Disease	21	21				Illegitimate	1 2
17 Arterio-sclerosis	5	16				Total Births	
18 Bronchitis	14	10				Legitimate	266 245
19 Pneumonia (all forms) ...	17	9				Illegitimate	5 14
20 Other respiratory diseases	2	1				Population	
21 Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	2						26,180
22 Diarrhœa, &c., (under 2 years)	5	1					

APPENDIX.

(1) General Statistics.

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	...	54,258
Population (1923)	...	...	...	...	...	26,180
Number of inhabited houses (1921)	...	...	...	...	...	5,886
Number of families or separate occupiers (1921)	...	...	...	...	...	6,004
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	...	£126,410
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£363

(2). Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

BIRTHS :—Legitimate : Total, 511, (Male 266, Female 245) ;
 Illegitimate : Total, 19 (Male 5, Female 14) ; Birth-rate—20·2.

DEATHS :—Total, 292 (Male 146, Female 146) ; Death-Rate
 10·1.

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of Childbirth :
 from Sepsis, 2 ; from other causes, 2.

Deaths of infants under one year of age per 1000 Births : Legitimate
 84·9 ; Illegitimate 5·6 ; Total, 90·5.

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	2
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	Nil.
Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	6

(3) Notifiable Diseases during the year.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	nil	nil	nil
Diphtheria	45	39	5
Scarlet Fever	45	42	1
Enteric Fever (including Puratyphoid)	nil	nil	nil
Pneumonia	42	nil	26
Puerperal Fever	4	nil	2
Dysentery	15	nil	nil
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	nil	nil
Erysipelas	12	nil	nil
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	nil	1

Maternity and Infant Welfare.

Particulars relating to the Work during the Year 1923.

Births															
Notified															
Transfers from other Districts during the month															
Full term		Premature		Stillborn		By Midwives		By Parents and Doctors		Under ten days		Over ten days and under one year		One year and under five	
L.	I.	L.	I.	L.	I.	L.	I.	L.	I.	L.	I.	L.	I.	L.	I.
...															
Oakamoor	30	1				15		15	1						
Kingsley	39			1		30		9	1					3	
Waterhouses	13			1		10		4						5	
Werrington	68	2		3		37		30	2					6	
Hollington	9					9									
Cheddleton	35			3		29		6						6	
Forsbrook	29		1			27		3						7	
Alton	15			1		16									
Cheadle	137	5	2	4		136	3	1	2						
TOTAL	375	7	4	13		309	3	68	5					27	

Oakamoor	...	11	29	6	37	209	530	48	238	530	15	86
Kingsley	...	5	40		4	206	167	9	246	173	31	46
Waterhouses	...	6	8	3	11	124	307	17	132	400	23	63
Werrington	...	12	72	9	15	399	558	27	471	567	48	190
Hollington	...	3	3		10	44	116	13	47	116	10	38
Cheddleton	...	10	32	6	10	298	276	21	330	282	38	151
Forsbrook	...	14	31	2	25	293	293	39	324	295	35	114
Alton	...	10	19	4	11	150	210	20	169	214	26	61
Cheadle	...	92	148	1	108	890	1497	200	1038	1498	123	361
TOTAL	...	163	382	31	231	2613	3954	394	2995	4075	349	1110

Deaths and Removals of Children on Visiting List during the Year										Welfare Centre					No. of cases of insanitary conditions reported to Medical Officer of Health							
Under ten days				Over ten days and under one year				One year and under five		No. on books, 126			Total No. of Attendances, 1,365			No. of cases of insanitary conditions reported to Medical Officer of Health						
Deaths		Removals		Deaths		Removals		Deaths		Removals		Expectant Mothers		Children Under Betw'n one year & 5 years		Expectant Mothers		Children Under Betw'n one year & 5 years		Health Visitor		
L.	I.	L.	I.	L.	I.	L.	I.	L.	I.	L.	I.	L.	I.	L.	I.	L.	I.	L.	I.	L.	I.	
Oakamoor																						
Kingsley ...																						
W'terhouses																						
Werrington	3					2						1										1
Hollington												1	2									1
Cheddleton	1					4																
Forsbrook	1					1						1	1									
Alton ...												1	3									
Cheadle ...	2					6						3										13
TOTAL ...	7					15						7	2									15

L.—Legitimate.

I.—Illegitimate.

General Statistics—*Continued.*

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Cases			Vision un- impaired	Vision impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
Notified	Treated At home	In hosp'l.				
1	1	nil	1	nil	nil	nil

Tuberculosis.

Age Periods				New Cases				Deaths			
				Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
1	...	...	...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
5	...	...	...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
10	...	...	...	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
15	...	...	...	—	4	1	1	—	—	—	—
20	...	...	...	—	2	3	—	1	—	—	—
25	...	...	...	2	6	—	2	1	3	—	1
35	...	...	...	4	3	—	1	1	2	1	—
45	...	...	...	3	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
55	...	...	...	4	1	—	—	1	1	—	1
65 and upwards	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS				22	20	5	5	6	8*	1	5

* 2 age not known.

(4). Causes of Sickness.

The chief causes of invalidity and sickness that have been noteworthy in the district during the year have been Influenza, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and affections of the respiratory organs.

Influenza has been prevalent throughout the year and although of a milder type than during the epidemic of 1918-19 has been one of the chief causes of invalidity.

Scarlet Fever although of markedly decreased incidence has caused a large amount of sickness amongst school children. The type of the disease has however been comparatively mild and in only one instance proved fatal.

There was a marked increase in the number of cases of Diphtheria notified during the year, chiefly due to an outbreak afflicting children in the Ipstones quarter. This was specially reported on at the time of the outbreak, and briefly was due to virulent "carriers" attending schools in that district.

Amongst the affections of the Respiratory organs the chief causes of invalidity were Pneumonia and Tuberculosis; no fewer than 52 cases of the latter having been notified. This is a marked increase on the number notified during the preceding year, but it is probably more apparent than real, both clinical and X Ray methods adopted for the detection of this disease having so greatly improved that it can now be diagnosed in a much earlier stage than formerly. Even so there is still much that can be done to combat this great scourge, provision of adequate isolation for highly infectious cases, providing the people with better houses, better sanitation, better food and clothing; proper nursing, supervision and control of infected persons; better control of the milk supply of the country—including production, storage and distribution—and by no means least, the encouragement by every means in our power of the breast feeding of infants, are all measures that would tend to lessen the incidence of a disease which in this country alone causes something like 50,000 deaths per annum.

(5). Summary of Nursing arrangements, Hospitals and other Institutions available for the District.

General home nursing is carried out by District Nursing Associations, of which there are nine in Cheadle area. These Associations for the most part co-operate with Staffordshire Nursing Association, with which most of them are affiliated, and none of them is under the control of the local sanitary Authority. Funds are derived chiefly from voluntary subscriptions, donations and membership subscriptions, and where the Association nurses do school work, health visiting, etc., from grants made by the County Council. Generally however, it is necessary to get up special efforts to supplement these sources of income.

With the exception of Measles—for which the County Council have arranged to give nursing assistance in necessitous cases during epidemics—no special arrangements are made for nursing infectious cases in the town, but the local hospital provides fairly adequate facilities for hospital treatment.

Midwifery practice is carried out to a large extent by Midwives, of whom there are 19 trained and 7 untrained practising in the district. None of these is employed or subsidised by the Local Sanitary Authority.

An Infant Welfare Centre and a School Clinic are open at Cheadle each Wednesday, both being controlled by the County Council.

No special provision has been made for the treatment of Venereal disease locally, but arrangements have been made whereby cases can receive treatment at the North Stafford Infirmary, Stoke-on-Trent.

A Tuberculosis dispensary is open weekly at Cumberland House, Cheadle, and is attended by a Tuberculosis officer appointed by the County Council.

Hospitals provided or subsidised by the Local Authority or by the County Council.

The Cheadle District Infectious Diseases Hospital is provided by the Local Authority for the treatment of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, and Enteric Fever.

The North Staffordshire Joint Small-pox Hospital, at Bagnall, is partly maintained by the Local Authority.

The County Mental Hospital, at Cheddleton, is the only large hospital within the district. It is partly controlled by the County Council, and is subsidised to some extent by the Local Authority.

Outside the district, but receiving patients from the district are Hartshill Infirmary, Stoke-on-Trent, Longton Cottage Hospital, Longton, and Longfields Cripples' Home, Stoke-on-Trent. All these are voluntary hospitals, and to Hartshill and Longfields the Local Authority makes yearly contributions.

The Staffordshire, Wolverhampton and Dudley Joint Tuberculosis Committee have provided Sanatoriums for the treatment of persons suffering from tuberculosis. One at Moxley for men, One at Himley for children, One at Grounslow and one at Yarnfields for women.

Provision is made for the care of prospective unmarried mothers on payment of 40/- per week for 6 weeks, at the Mrs. Legge Memorial Home, Wolverhampton.

Homeless children, and to a certain extent illegitimate children, are provided for at Cheadle Union Infirmary and Cottage homes.

No ambulances have been provided by the Local Authority for other than infectious diseases.

(6). Laboratory Work.

The County Council has made arrangements for practitioners to have bacteriological examinations made at the County laboratory, General Hospital, Wolverhampton, in suspected cases of Diphtheria, Enteric Fever, Tuberculosis, Cerebro-Spinal Fever, and Malaria; while facilities are also given to have Masserman reactions tested.

Diphtheria antitoxin and Influenza vaccine can be obtained by practitioners on application to the Local Medical Officer of Health.

During the year the number of examinations for Diphtheria bacilli made was 289, the number made for Tubercle bacilli being 28.

(7). Sanitary Administration.

ADOPTIVE ACTS :—

Public Health Acts' Amendment Act, 1890. Part III.

BYELAWS :—

I. New Streets and Buildings. New Bye-laws in course of preparation.

II. Nuisances { Cleansing of footways and pavements.
Removal of house refuse from premises, and the
cleansing of privies, ashpits, and cesspools.
June, 1918.

III. Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops. August, 1902.

IV. Slaughterhouses. June, 1912.

(8). Public Health Staff.

DAVID McGRUTHER WILSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

M.O.H. Cheadle Rural District.

M.O. Isolation Hospital, Union Infirmary and Cottage Homes.

M.O. Cheadle Infant Welfare Centre and School Clinic.

School Medical Inspector Cheadle South.

FRED T. INSKIP, Inspector of Nuisances, Certificate R.S.I.

Sanitary Inspector and Sanitary Surveyor.

JOHN E. BLAKEWAY, Inspector of Nuisances of Meat and other Food, Certificate, R.S.I.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector and Assistant Sanitary Surveyor.

(9). HOUSING.

Number of New Houses erected during the year—

- (a) Total 65.
- (b) with State assistance under the Housing Acts, 1919 or 1923.
 - (I) By the Local Authority 16
 - (II) By other bodies or persons 1

I. UNFIT DWELLING-HOUSES.**INSPECTION.**

- (A) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts) ... 875
- (B) Number of dwelling-houses that were inspected and recorded (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910 ... 324
- (C) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 90
- (D) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 150

II. REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE.

- Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 25

III. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

- (A) Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c. Act, 1919.
 - (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 30
 - (2) Number of dwelling-houses that were rendered fit
 - (a) by owners 1
 - (b) by Local Authority in default of owners ... nil
 - (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close nil

(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	251
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied		
(a)	by owners	... ..	164
(b)	by Local Authority in default of owners	...	nil

(c) Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c. Act, 1919.

(1)	Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	... ..	5
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	... ..	5
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	... ..	2
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	... ..	nil
(5)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	... ..	nil

Number of visits to new buildings	... ..	300
„ „ „ drains and sewers	... ..	152
„ „ under Public Health and Housing Act	... ..	2120
„ „ to Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	... ..	186
„ „ to Bakehouses	... ..	20
„ „ in connection with water supplies	... ..	56
„ „ of Inspection under Increase Rent (Restrict.) Act	... ..	3
„ Certificates granted under Increase Rent (Restrictions) Act	... ..	2
Cesspits, privies and pail closets converted to water closets	... ..	16
Privies converted to pail closets	... ..	39
Improvements to existing drains	... ..	72
Ashbins to replace defective ashbins	... ..	22
Nightsoil pails to replace defective ones	... ..	8
Ashbins to replace Ashpits	... ..	62
Obstructions removed from drains	... ..	74
Offensive accumulations removed	... ..	19
Drains provided to premises previously without drains	... ..	12

Additional sanitary conveniences provided	...	...	4
Slaughter-houses inspected	...	...	50
Water-closets and privies repaired	...	...	7
Schools disinfected	...	...	3
Premises disinfected	...	...	93
Repairs to houses	...	...	136
No. of Notices served on Scavengers	...	...	76
No. of cowsheds, dairies, etc. altered after notice	...	...	3
No. of premises cleansed	...	...	5
Abatement of nuisances arising from improper keeping of pigs			1
Abatement of nuisances arising from improper keeping of fowls			1
Cases of overcrowding abated	...	...	3

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

CHEADLE,

D. M. WILSON.

APRIL, 1924.